

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To ensure appropriate spectrum planning and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To ensure appropriate spectrum planning and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Developing Innovation  
5 and Growing the Internet of Things Act” or “DIGIT  
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) the “Internet of Things” refers to the grow-  
10 ing number of connected and interconnected devices;

1           (2) estimates indicate that more than  
2           50,000,000,000 devices will be connected by the year  
3           2020;

4           (3) the Internet of Things has the potential to  
5           generate trillions of dollars in economic opportunity;

6           (4) businesses across the country can simplify  
7           logistics, cut costs, and pass savings on to con-  
8           sumers by utilizing the Internet of Things and re-  
9           lated innovations derived from it;

10          (5) the United States leads the world in the de-  
11          velopment of technologies that support the Internet,  
12          and the United States technology sector is well posi-  
13          tioned to lead in the development of technologies for  
14          the Internet of Things;

15          (6) the United States Government can imple-  
16          ment this technology to better deliver services to the  
17          public; and

18          (7) the Senate unanimously passed Senate Res-  
19          olution 110, 114th Congress, agreed to March 24,  
20          2015, a resolution calling for a national strategy for  
21          the development of the Internet of Things.

22          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
23          gress that policies governing the Internet of Things should  
24          aim to maximize the potential and development of the

1 Internet of Things to the benefit of stakeholders including  
2 businesses, governments, and consumers.

3 **SEC. 3. STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE INTERNET OF**  
4 **THINGS.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

6 (1) the term “appropriate committees of Con-  
7 gress” means—

8 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
9 and Transportation of the Senate; and

10 (B) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
11 merce of the House of Representatives;

12 (2) the term “Commission” means the Federal  
13 Communications Commission;

14 (3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
15 of Commerce; and

16 (4) the term “working group” means the work-  
17 ing group convened under subsection (b)(1).

18 (b) WORKING GROUP.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene  
20 a working group of Federal stakeholders to provide  
21 recommendations to Congress on how to appro-  
22 priately plan for and encourage the proliferation of  
23 the Internet of Things in the United States.

24 (2) DUTIES.—The working group shall examine  
25 the following aspects of the Internet of Things:

1 (A) Current and future spectrum needs.

2 (B) The regulatory environment, including  
3 identification of sector-specific regulations, Fed-  
4 eral grant practices, and budgetary or jurisdic-  
5 tional challenges.

6 (C) Consumer protection.

7 (D) Privacy and security.

8 (E) The current use of the technology by  
9 Federal agencies and their preparedness to  
10 adopt it in the future.

11 (3) AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES.—In convening  
12 the working group under paragraph (1), the Sec-  
13 retary shall have discretion to appoint representa-  
14 tives and shall specifically consider seeking represen-  
15 tation from—

16 (A) the Department of Transportation;

17 (B) the Federal Communications Commis-  
18 sion;

19 (C) the Federal Trade Commission;

20 (D) the National Science Foundation;

21 (E) the Department of Commerce, includ-  
22 ing—

23 (i) the National Telecommunications  
24 and Information Administration;

1 (ii) the National Institute of Stand-  
2 ards and Technology; and

3 (iii) the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
4 pheric Administration; and

5 (F) the Office of Science and Technology  
6 Policy.

7 (4) NON-GOVERNMENTAL STAKEHOLDERS.—  
8 The working group shall consult with non-Govern-  
9 mental stakeholders, including—

10 (A) key industry sectoral stakeholders and  
11 subject matter experts;

12 (B) information and communications tech-  
13 nology manufacturers, suppliers, and vendors;

14 (C) small, medium, and large businesses;

15 (D) consumer groups; and

16 (E) other stakeholders with relevant exper-  
17 tise, as determined by the Secretary.

18 (5) RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.—Not  
19 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this  
20 Act, the working group shall submit to the appro-  
21 priate committees of Congress a report on the find-  
22 ings and recommendations of the working group  
23 under this subsection.

24 (c) ASSESSING SPECTRUM NEEDS TO SUPPORT THE  
25 INTERNET OF THINGS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, in con-  
2           sultation with the National Telecommunications and  
3           Information Administration, shall conduct a study to  
4           evaluate the current and future spectrum needs of  
5           the Internet of Things.

6           (2) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the study  
7           under paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider  
8           and evaluate—

9                   (A) whether there is adequate licensed and  
10                  unlicensed spectrum availability to support the  
11                  growing Internet of Things;

12                  (B) what regulatory barriers may exist to  
13                  providing any needed licensed and unlicensed  
14                  spectrum for the Internet of Things; and

15                  (C) what the role of licensed and unli-  
16                  censed spectrum is in the growth of the Inter-  
17                  net of Things.

18           (3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the  
19           date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall  
20           submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a  
21           report containing recommendations relating to the  
22           study conducted under paragraph (1).